ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

When at least one output unit is brought into a printable state, a controller prepares a schedule to assign a tandem print job to another output unit under

5   execution of another job so as to complete the tandem print job within the shortest time period, and causes the output unit to execute the tandem print job according to the schedule. Thus, the tandem print job can be started when at least one output unit is brought

10   into a printable state and completed within the shortest time period.